



Erie County

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County Publication



CCE ERIE 4-H & AG,
LIFE SOURCE SYSTEMS,
& THE GOOD FARMERS GUILD
PRESENT:



FOOD IN COMMUNITY



Festival
& 4-H CELEBRATION!



**FREE
FOOD**

HANDS-ON FOOD AND FARMING ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES

FEATURING 4-H CLUBS AND LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

REGISTER AT: [HTTPS://REG.CCE.CORNELL.EDU/FOODINCOMMUNITY_214](https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/foodincommunity_214)



**SATURDAY
30 SEPT 2023**

TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE

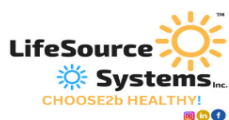
1:00-4:00PM

REINSTEIN WOODS NATURE PRESERVE

93 HONORINE DR, DEPEW, NY 14043

QUESTIONS? CONTACT

SEJ57@CORNELL.EDU OR 716-652-5400 EXT. 142 OR
LSSINY2015@GMAIL.COM OR LAURAON3535@GMAIL.COM



Cornell Cooperative Extension | Erie County

CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF ERIE COUNTY PROVIDES EQUAL PROGRAM AND
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES. ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
MAY BE REQUESTED BY CONTACTING SARA JABLONSKI AT 716-652-5400 BY SEPTEMBER 26.





Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Dear Erie County 4-H,

I've officially made it through my first fair season, and I could not have done it without all of you. We had such a successful year in the Youth Development Building! The building received some needed TLC in the months leading up to the fair - thank you to 4-H Alumni, members, and volunteers who attended work nights. Chris Basile did a wonderful job as the Building Coordinator, where her duties included designing and decorating the building (thank you to Sam Basile as well!!).

My favorite part of the fair was getting to see all our Erie County 4-H members in action. I learned about Niagara Falls, softball, polocrosse, and pet care by listening to your public presentations. You led hands-on activities for fairgoers where they got to build spaghetti towers, plant seeds, and make crafts. You filled up the Youth Development Building with music and applause during our Talent and Fashion Show. I got to witness your culinary and confectionery skills during our Chef Challenge and Cake Decorating event. You impressed the crowd with your tower-building skills during our STEM Challenge. You served food and drinks with a smile at the 4-H Café.

Thank you to all who volunteered their time and knowledge to make this fair season a success. I appreciated everyone's help during evaluation day, set-up and pick-up day, as well as throughout the fair. It's such a joy to be a part of the Erie County 4-H community.



Maddie Webb, 4-H Youth Development Educator

Another Erie County Fair Thank You.....

Chris Basile - 2023 4H Youth Development Building Coordinator

Just a note of thanks to the small but mighty crew of 4-H families, alumni and friends that came during our clean up and set up for the 2023 Erie County Fair.

There was much cleaning, fixing, moving, painting, and decorating that must be done each year to allow us to share with the public the great talents of our 4-H members.

Again, to those that pitched in thank you. We are already starting to plan for the 2024 4-H year. We want to make sure we can show off the great work and talents that are in our program.

Attached are a few pictures from our work nights. Keep in mind that many hands make light work, and we need your continued support.

Looking forward to another successful year with our 4-H programs. Keep in mind the 2024 Erie County Fair is scheduled for August 7th – 18th, 2024.



Is this your Erie County Fair project?

This project was found in the YDB at the Erie County Fair with no name tag on it. Please contact Maddie (mgw76@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 130) if this is your project.



2023 ERIE COUNTY FAIR SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Animal Equipment & Accessories

Best Overall Ellie Hoffman

Cloverbuds

Best Overall Male 5 - 6 years old Felicity Oberholtzer

Best Overall Female 5 - 6 years old Natalie Gabel

Best Overall Male 7 - 7 years old Levi Thauer

Best Overall Female 7 - 7 years old Jocelyn Gabel

Community Service

Best Overall Denver Kazmierczak

Electrical

Best Overall Dwayne Guerin, Jr.

Environmental Education

Best Overall Eleanora Pena-Draper

Fine Arts & Crafts

Best Overall Senior Grace Czech

Best Overall Junior Ellie Hoffman

Foods & Nutrition

Best Overall Junior Mira Casper

Best Overall Senior Nathaniel DeJong

Food Preservation

Maple Syrup Allison Gabel

Home Environment

Best Overall Junior Aliza Howe

Best Overall Intermediate Nathaniel DeJong

Best Overall Senior Molly Mangefrida

Home Environment Class #9

Best Overall Charlotte Parsons

Ornamental Horticulture

Best Overall Casey Cummings

Best Overall Creative Garden Orchard Park Voyagers

Best Overall Garden Marilla Lads & Lassies

Best Overall Flowerbox - Male Casey Cummings

Best Overall Flowerbox - Female Denver Kazmierczak

Photography

Best Overall Molly Mangefrida

Poster

Best Overall Poster - Male Nathaniel DeJong

Best Overall Poster - Female Faith Michalovic & Lainey Galuszka

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math)

Best Overall Lucas Pinheiro

Tablesetting

Best Overall Nathaniel DeJong

Textiles & Clothing

Best Overall Junior Aliza Howe

Best Overall Sophia Kalinowski

Best Overall Quilt Isabella Pietras

Vegetables

Best Overall Hunter Dykeman

Woodworking

Best Woodworking Experience Nathaniel DeJong
Best Overall Nathaniel DeJong

Overall Exhibitor

Best Overall Brandon DeJong

4-H Café

Work in the 4-H Café - Overall Elizabeth Zynda

Work in the 4-H Café - Family Jolene, Loraina, and Leslie Mesch

Congratulations to all the Special Award Winners!

A very special thanks to the 4-H Alumni Association and 4-H Supporters who sponsored these very special awards!

Erie County 4-H Booth @ The New York State



Congratulations to 4-H members who had projects selected to be shown at the New York State Fair!

Ben Agle, Rosalie Andrews, Sutton Ayers, Lexie Bliemeister, Casey Cummings, Grace Czech, David Schuessler, Nathaniel de Jong, Brandon de Jong, Eleanor de Jong, Anna Domanowski, Hunter Dykeman, Arela Enser, Evelyn Fisher, Madeline Gabel, Lainey Galuszka, Marion Galuszka, Nathan Geiger, Kylie Gray, Chloe Green, Gwenivere Godwin, Analise Hayne, Ellie Hoffman, Aliza Howe, Owen Howe, Sophia Kalinowski, Haley Kehr, Madison Kehr, Mitchell Kehr, Jacob Leitzan, Jordyn Loomis, Paige Loomis, Molly Mangefrida, Lucy Maynard, Levi Mecca, Luke Mecca, Joel Mecca, Jocelyn Mesch, Justin Mesch, Chase Metzger, Faith Michalovic, Payge Murray, Danica Niefergold, William Niefergold, Allison Niefergold, Ashley Niefergold, Marea Palka, Charlotte Parsons, Isabella Pietras, Donald Potempa, Havilah Rose, Charlotte Saraceni, Robert Sautter, Kiersten Schindler, Nicholas Schindler, Wyatt Timmel, Christian Valentic, The Voyagers 4-H Club, Weaver, Isabella Winchell

Looking for pictures that were taken during this year's Erie County Fair?



GO TO: 4hatthefair.com

4-H Leader Meeting – Open to Parents!



Come join 4-H staff at the first Leader Meeting of the 2023-24 4-H year. The leader meeting provides a space to connect, network, and share ideas with 4-H leaders, volunteers, and staff. This is a great time to share and receive project ideas and general club tips and tricks, as well as receive updates from the 4-H office.

New- Parents of independent members are welcomed and encouraged to attend this meeting!

We require 1 adult representative from each Erie County 4-H club to attend this meeting. This can be the organizational leader of the club, but it does not have to be. It is important that clubs send a representative so that they can bring back information from the 4-H office back to their club. Clubs are welcome to send more than 1 representative. 😊

When: Thursday, October 5th from 6-8pm

Where: Roycroft Power House (39 S Grove St, East Aurora, NY 14052)

Email Maddie (mgw76@cornell.edu) to RSVP as soon as possible

**Note to leaders: The 4-H Open House for new members has a new date: Tuesday, October 17 from 6-8pm at the Roycroft Power House. (See last page for more information) We would love to have club leaders attend to meet prospective 4-H members. Please contact Maddie for more information.*

Tree ID - Monthly Workshop

Come join us for the first Monthly Workshop of the 2023-24 4-H year.

We will learn how to identify common trees, as well as indigenous uses for these trees. This will be a great opportunity to enjoy the fall weather with friends!



Where: Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve (93 Honorine Dr, Depew, NY 14043)

When: Monday, October 9 from 1-2:30pm

Who: This workshop is best suited for older 4-H members, however, we welcome 4-Hers of any age who want to learn more about trees!

Why: For fun! This workshop will also give 4-H members the skills necessary to complete a tree collection project, which can be entered as a fair project next year.

Registration is required. Contact Maddie (mgw76@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 130) to register. Please include 4-H member's name and age.

What is a Monthly 4-H Workshop??

Monthly Workshops are opportunities for 4-Hers to learn a new skill while in the company of other Erie County 4-H members. They are open to all Erie County 4-H members. Some Monthly Workshops have an age suggestion or requirement, so please be mindful of that. Topics covered in Monthly Workshops range from woodworking to birdwatching to pottery. We are always looking for new topics to add, so please reach out with any suggestions. Monthly workshops are free, unless stated otherwise in the event description. Monthly workshops are an opportunity for 4-Hers from different areas and clubs in Erie County to meet and have fun together. Monthly Workshops are advertised in the monthly Erie County newsletter (Speed Read), as well as on social media (Facebook and Instagram). Monthly Workshop topics are often released at least 1 month in advance- stay tuned for a list of upcoming Monthly Workshops! Registration is required for monthly workshops and can be done by emailing Maddie. Any Monthly Workshop questions or suggestions can be directed to Maddie (mgw76@cornell.edu or 716-652-5400 x 130)

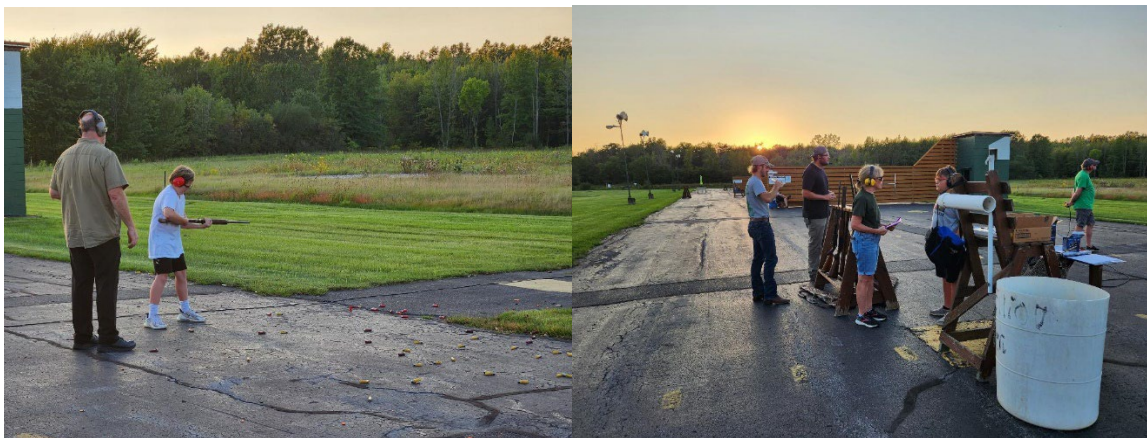
Congratulations to Erie County 4-H member, Marea Palka for being selected to attend the 4-H Northeast States Speak Up Fest!



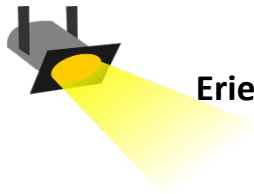
After Marea gave her public presentation at the county level, she was invited to attend the Western Districts Public Presentation event, where she received a perfect score on her presentation. This qualified her to submit a video to be evaluated by evaluators from across NYS, where she ended up placing 1st in the NYS round of selections. Marea was chosen to represent New York State, as well as Erie County, at the Northeast States Speak Up Fest, which is a regional event for 4-H public presentations, on September 16th. Marea's public presentation is titled "Self Defense- Tips and Tricks That Might Save Your Life."

Congratulations on your public presentation accomplishments this year, Marea!

Erie County Sharp Shooters Shooting Sports Club




The Sharp Shooters Shooting Sports club had their last meeting of the 2023 program year where they focused Skeet Shooting. This club offers a broad range of educational opportunities including fire safety, wildlife conservation, muzzleloading, riflery, air pistol, archery, habitat enhancement, living history, hunting all in an interactive program. They meet the first Tuesday of each month at the Tonawanda Sportsman Club. They are currently accepting new members, if you have a youth interested, please reach out to Tammi Kron at tlk6@cornell.edu and you will be connected to the leader.



Erie County 4-H Alumni Spotlight

John Pirrung



John Pirrung is an Erie County 4-H Alumni who has been busy this summer working with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County. During his time as a 4-Her, John was a member of the Marilla Lads and Lassies, where he created many impressive projects to display in the Youth Development Building. John has stayed involved with Erie County 4-H by attending an Alumni meeting, as well as serving as an assistant instructor to multiple Monthly Workshops this year.

John is currently a student at Cornell University where he is studying Environment and Sustainability through CALS (College of Agriculture and Life Sciences). This summer, John found an internship through his university with Cornell Cooperative Extension that took him back to his roots in Erie County. Instead of being involved with the 4-H side of Cooperative Extension, this time John worked with the Agriculture department within CCE of Erie County. The purpose of this internship was to “work with Cornell's Weeds and Climate Change project team members to develop science-based outreach tools for agricultural producers to help adapt weed management strategies with climate change.” John’s internship provided him with a mix of office and field experience. Please enjoy the excerpt below from one of John’s blog posts, which describes a day of field work during his internship:

“Hello Readers, ...last week I went on a tour around some of Buffalo’s urban agriculture initiatives. The first stop of the tour was inside a Freight Farm, which is a vertical farm operated entirely within a shipping container. It was absolutely amazing to see agriculture and technology blended this way, and I’m very hopeful to see Freight Farms become more popular and more affordable. If this farm stays in Buffalo for another year, I may have an internship goal for next summer. The next stop gave us a quick look at the site where some suburban greenhouses are going to be built, hopefully by November we’ll see them all up and running. The last stop was a great raised bed garden which also had a shed set up to experiment with hydroponics, and it was at this site that we had a conversation about new compost and fertilizer technology that may be coming to Buffalo soon. The tour was amazing and it was honestly so cool to see how much new agricultural tech is out there, everything from AI-powered watering systems to chemical reactors that turn compost into liquid fertilizer. I can definitely see myself in a career using this tech, so I’ll be keeping a close eye on all of this over the next few years.”

It is so exciting to see Erie County 4-H Alumni doing incredible work, especially within Cornell Cooperative Extension. Keep up the awesome work, John! 😊

FROM 2020 - John’s vegetable seedlings -ECTA Project 2020

The Erie County Teen Ambassadors have been working on a project to grow produce for a local food pantry. The group was challenged to select a project that focused on making 4-H a welcoming environment for all. After some brainstorming they recognized that food and agriculture has a connection to all. The teens have been planting seeds, and tracking their experience.



Tomatoes-April 30, 2020

I've attached 2 pictures as a before and after of our tomatoes. The first was taken April 30th, and the second was taken today). They've been growing quite nicely, and currently they're actually our best growing seedlings. We've planned out where we're going to plant them, and hope to transfer them somewhat soon.

Tomatoes-May 15, 2020





September 2023 Livestock Notes

Tammi Kron, 4-H Livestock Educator

Congratulations to all our 4-H members on your success at the Erie County Fair. Each of one you continue to amaze me year after year in the growth that you demonstrate, and you should be proud of your accomplishments. Completing your project and producing a high-quality market animal is always the goal along with meeting the needs of your buyers. Those members that exhibit animals that go home and have offspring, you should be proud of the program you have, learn from year to year improving your genetics. 4-H is about learning and growing from year to year these life lessons are something you will carry with you for the rest of your life. I look forward to a great program year in 2024, I am especially excited to see you all succeed in your goals.

2024 Enrollment: The 2023 4-H program year will end on September 30, 2023. That means that you need to get your 2024 enrollment forms back to the 4-H office as soon as possible so you can participate in meetings and continue to receive our Speed Read. **Please be sure to submit your re-enrollment paperwork no later than November 3, 2023, so you can participate in the 2024 fair.**

Market Checks: We are working on getting your market checks out to you shortly. Once you receive them, please be prompt in cashing them so they do not get lost. Along with your check you will find a breakdown of your check and the name and address of your buyer. Please be sure to send a thank you note to those that supported you and your project. Remember once is never enough – remember your buyer during the holidays as well.

Trophy Sponsorship: Along with your market check you will also receive a sticker with the name and address of an award sponsor. I ask that you send a note thanking them for their support to the program – even if you did not receive an award – you all received a t-shirt and that required sponsorship. We had many awards that did not have a sponsor name, but businesses contributed money which made all the awards possible. Please take the 2 minutes to write a nice note, our supporters would like to know they are appreciated. If by chance you received a trophy and there was no sticker on the bottom, please contact me so I can give you the address.

Thank You: On behalf of the Erie County 4-H program I would like to say thank you to all our pie, cookie, and platter makers. Your community service to the program in making the items allows us to earn funds to assist us with our programming efforts along with adding to the fund for our new facility in Orchard Park. The following individuals contributed over 6 hours of community service this year: A. Howe, O. Howe, N. Schindler, K. Schindler, D. Kazmierczak, A. Hayne, C. Saraceni, L. Jorgensen, A. Jorgensen, J. Loomis, L. Gerken, K. Kosnikowski, L. Root, M. Root, J. Joseph, H. Niefergold, K. Niefergold, A. Niefergold, A. Niefergold, A. Errington. We would also like to extend a thank you to Chris Basile for teaching our members about the history of pie making, and how to make a pie, along with the science behind making cookies and for supporting our members in the making. Thank you to Sally Hudson for securing a location for our training at Marilla Methodist Church and to Karen at Dailys Catering for allowing us to use her kitchen to make and bake our final projects.

Beef: We will be holding our 2024 Beef Orientation in November, please watch the next Speed Read for the date, time, and location.

Beef halters are in my office, please stop to pick it up. I will also have them at orientation.

2024 Programming: What do you want to learn about this coming year? If you have a thought, please send it on to me.

I will be holding our livestock advisory committee meetings during the month of October/November. If you were either a Master Showman, or placed in the top 4, watch for an invitation as you are the representative for your fellow members.



Congratulations to Isaac Folts and Allison Gabel on your accomplishments in Dairy Judging at NYS Fair. Isaac and Allison are now headed on to represent NYS 4-H at the National Contest. Isaac finished 3rd overall, and Allison finished 6th overall. We are so proud of you both!



Junior State Hippology - 1st Charlotte Parsons, 2nd Samantha Parsons, 3rd Zoe Washburn – 3rd place team



Junior State Horse Judging 2nd place C. Parsons, 3rd S. Parsons, 9th, Z. Washburn



Senior Individual State Horse Judging – 6th J. Leitzen



Sr State Hippology Individual – 6th J. Leitzan and a member of the 5th overall team.



Sr. State Hippology Team

The 46th Annual New York State 4-H Agribusiness Career Conference

October 19-20, 2023

The 46th Annual New York State 4-H Agribusiness Career Conference will be held on October 19-20, 2023, at SUNY Cobleskill and local agri-businesses. The conference is co-sponsored by NYS 4-H, the State University of New York (SUNY) at Cobleskill and the NYS Farm Bureau Foundation for Education. This career exploration conference is open to all youth ages 14 and over who wish to become more aware of opportunities with agriculture and the academic requirements for professional positions available in the various agri-businesses. It will feature mini tours to farms and businesses in the Cobleskill area as well as seminars, guest speakers and guided tours of the SUNY Cobleskill agriculture facilities.

A participation fee of \$125.00 per youth and \$100 per chaperone will include all overnight accommodation and meals. (If a participant wishes to come for just one day, that is acceptable, but the cost of the program is the same.) Participants and chaperones will be staying at The Super 8 located at 955 East Main Street Cobleskill. Please note, if you are arriving on Wednesday night, it is your own responsibility to make and pay for hotel reservations for that night. There are Paper Clover funds available to assist with the participation fee, apply today to the Erie County 4-H office if you are interested. Registration for the event closes on September 22, 2023, please let Tammi know by September 15th if you want to attend so we can get you registered.

Mini Tour Opportunities:

Tract 1	Schoharie Valley Farms	Speaking with the Vet
Tract 2	Sweet Tree Farm	Hessian Hill Farm
Tract 3	Milk Quality Lab	Jack Miller Garage
Tract 4	Dellavale Farm	Willow Tree Wisdom
Tract 5	Fairbanks Stable	Black Willow Pond Farm
Tract 6	Dairy Processing Center	Meats Processing Lab

Campus Study Sessions:

- ☐ Agriculture Business and Food Systems
- ☐ Floriculture, Nursery Management, Soils/Crops/Turf/Recreation & Sports Area Management
- ☐ Fisheries Technology
- ☐ Agriculture Engineering Technology
- ☐ Dairy Production
- ☐ Livestock Studies
- ☐ Equine Studies & Thoroughbred Management
- ☐ Biotechnology
- ☐ Canine Behavior
- ☐ Agri Communications
- ☐ Histotec

Want to learn more about the mini tours and study sessions?

Contact Tammi for the details at tlk6@cornell.edu

ERIE COUNTY 4-H OPEN HOUSE

INTERESTED IN JOINING 4-H? NEW TO 4-H THIS YEAR?

COME LEARN MORE ABOUT BEING AN
ERIE COUNTY 4-H MEMBER!



Tuesday, October 17 from 6-8pm
Roycroft Power House (39 S Grove St, East Aurora, NY 14052)

RSVP appreciated- email mgw76@cornell.edu

**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Erie County**



Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County provides equal program and employment opportunities. Accommodations for persons with special needs may be requested by contacting Maddie Webb at 716-652-5400 ext. 130 or mgw76@cornell.edu by October 10, 2023.

Please pass this information along to anyone you may know who is interested in joining 4-H!